

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the purpose of the comprehensive rewrite of the Land Development Code, known as CodeNEXT, was to promote each of the priority programs and the adopted policies and goals of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan and to comply with Article X, Section 1 and 5 of the City Charter which requires that Austin's land development regulations be consistent with the comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, a constantly amended timeline, spanning over five years, a combination of significant disruptions to the CodeNEXT process including major changes to our city leadership and an overhaul of our form of government to a new 10-1 district system of representation, and multiple drafts with major revisions between each drafts, have in our community led to significant confusion and lack of confidence in the process that CodeNEXT can achieve its stated goals; and

WHEREAS, many residents, businesses, and stakeholder groups throughout the community have expressed significant concerns that the CodeNEXT process has not reflected their input or produced a draft code they believe is consistent with Imagine Austin or adequately addresses Austin's challenges; and

WHEREAS, over the course of the CodeNEXT process concerns have been raised about the reliability of the data provided to Council, including forecasting models and housing capacity analyses, which led Council to direct the City Manager through Resolution 20180628-125 to conduct additional testing and modelling of the latest draft of CodeNEXT and the recommendations of City Commissions by August 31, 2018; and

WHEREAS, City Staff informed Council through a July 24, 2018 Memorandum about challenges encountered in the testing process that make it difficult to meet the August 31, 2018

deadline and that Council would be provided a status update, including an anticipated timeline for the completion of the testing effort, once the participants and meetings dates are set; and

WHEREAS, the process of a comprehensive rewrite of a Land Development Code is necessarily complicated and requires consistent executive leadership from staff, a stable political framework, and reliable analytical data; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Council finds that due to a combination of significant disruptions to the process, CodeNEXT is no longer a suitable mechanism to achieve its stated goals or address the critical challenges currently facing our City; and:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The Council directs the City Auditor to undertake a special project to:

- Examine the CodeNEXT process;
- Gather input from a diverse group of stakeholders including, but not limited to city departments, community, business and industry groups, council offices, CodeNEXT consultants, and city commissions involved in CodeNEXT review;
- Provide a review of best practices for large legislative projects;

and return to Council with the results by October 30, 2018; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to develop and propose a new process leading to a Land Development Code that achieves the stated goals of the City as outlined in the *Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan*, the *Strategic Housing Blueprint*, Austin's Watershed Protection Master Plan,

and the *Austin Strategic Direction 2023 Plan*; and incorporates any recommendations the City Manager may derive from the findings in the City Auditor's special report.-

ADOPTED: _____, 2018

ATTEST:

Jannette S. Goodall

City Clerk